

OUR AMERICAN PRINCESSES



Princess Salm Salm who was Miss Agnes Jay of Vermont



Princess de Jcey-Montbellard who was Miss Slinger of Boston



Princess Brancaccio who was Miss Elizabeth Field



Princess Emanuel Ruspoli, who was Miss Josephine Curtis of New York



Princess Poniatowski who was Miss Elizabeth Sperry of California



Princess Cantacuzene who was Miss Grant



Princess de Susek who was Miss Field



Princess de Chimay who was Miss Clara Ward of Detroit



Princess Auerberg who was Miss Hazard of N.J.

A score of beautiful royal brides from the land of the free, one of whom is "Aunt Mary" to the Kaiser

INCREASING frequency of marriages between American women and European noblemen has made our American noblewomen no longer numbered by the dozens, but by the hundreds, and although the title of princess is the least common of all the titles acquired by American girls through marriage, there are here presented pictures of seventeen princesses and the outline history of several others.

Of these, one of the most brilliant marriages was that of Miss Elizabeth Field and Prince Don Salvador Brancaccio, Duke of Lustra, Prince of Trignano, Marquis of Brancaccio and a Spanish grandee of the first class. The princess is the daughter of the late J. Hickson Field of New York, and the marriage took place with much pomp and circumstance in Rome, March 3, 1870. The princess is a lady in waiting to Queen Margherita of Italy, and lives at the superb Brancaccio Palace at Rome. She is a great beauty and an especial favorite of the Queen.

Granddaughter of General Grant. Princess Cantacuzene was Miss Julia Dent Grant, granddaughter of General U. S. Grant, and daughter of General Fred Grant. She was married to the Russian Prince Cantacuzene with great pomp at Newport, the full Greek service being performed. She lives at St. Petersburg, where her husband is attached to the Emperor's Guard.

Princess Cantacuzene is prominent in diplomatic circles in the Russian capital, and his wife is a favorite among the women of the imperial court. The princess has been prominent in the social functions held in St. Petersburg this winter with the object of raising money for the Russian Red Cross Society. She is a friend of the Czarina, and has many times been a guest of the imperial party at the country home of the Emperor. In marrying the granddaughter of President U. S. Grant,

Princess Cantacuzene did not acquire a fortune of American dollars, for Julia Dent Grant was not a rich girl.

The Czar Was Pleased.

In fact, the Prince is wealthy himself, and did not need to marry for money. He is a handsome, intelligent, energetic nobleman of the more enterprising sort of Russian type, and in picking out an American for a wife he pleased not only himself, but his Emperor. It was said at the time of the marriage at Newport that the Emperor was greatly pleased, because he thought that in the marriage of a Russian Prince and the granddaughter of a President of the United States, the two countries would be drawn closely together in a bond of friendship that would come in good play some time. In this he was not far wrong, for there are to-day many wealthy and influential Americans who take the Russian side in the present war with Japan,

solely because Miss Grant became the Princess Cantacuzene. Mrs. Potter Palmer, of Chicago, is an aunt of the Princess, and it was said that she planned the match between her niece and the nobleman. She has engineered several social functions during the present Spring in the interests of the Russian Red Cross Society, and has sent a goodly check to the officials in St. Petersburg.

Gorgeous Colonna Nuptials.

Another marriage of an American girl with an Italian Prince was that of Miss Eva Bryant Mackay, stepdaughter of John W. Mackay, to Prince Ferdinand Salato Colonna, Prince of Palliano, Prince of Stigliano, a Spanish grandee of the first class and an officer in the Italian cavalry. The marriage took place in Paris on February 11, 1885. The Prince and Princess have since separated by mutual consent.

One of our American princesses is an

aunt by marriage to an Empress, for the Princess of Noer, Countess von Waldersee, is aunt to the Empress Augusta Victoria of Germany. The Princess has been almost a mother to the Empress for many years, and the advice of "Aunt Mary" is esteemed at the royal palace by both Emperor and Empress.

The Princess was Miss Mary Esther Lee, daughter of the late David Lee, of New York. She was married April 14, 1874, to Count Alfred Waldersee, aide-de-camp general of the German army. The Princess had been married before this to an Austrian nobleman, and the title of Princess of Noer is in her own right, and was given her by the Emperor of Austria.

A Profitable Honeymoon.

Her first husband, the Austrian, Prince of Moer, renounced all his royal rights and received from the Emperor a new title which was conferred upon

his wife as well. They were married in September, 1864, and started on their wedding trip to the Holy Land. Before they had reached Cairo the young bride had attained such ascendancy over her husband that he made a will leaving everything that he possessed to her. He soon after died in a lonely province in Syria.

His widow moved to Wiesbaden and set up a magnificent establishment, which attracted a good deal of attention to her. Her first husband had been seventy years old. She was now twenty-seven years old and mistress of a great fortune. Count Waldersee fell head over heels in love with the rich widow. He was a rising young man and it was said that with her money and his wits he would one day be chancellor of the empire.

Social Prestige of the Princess.

She returned his love and they were married. Moving to Berlin the Princess Noer became a favorite in society. The Count quickly advanced in rank, and by 1881, when Prince William of Prussia married the Princess' grandniece, the daughter of Duke Frederick of Schleswig, he was prominently spoken of as the coming successor in the public esteem of Hohenzollern, who would one day be Chancellor.

Augusta Victoria, wife of Prince William, was declared a nuisance by the then reigning Kaiserin, the late Empress Augusta. Her life was made miserable. Snubbed by the court on every occasion, the future Empress of Germany turned for comfort and sympathy to her American aunt, the Countess Waldersee and Princess Noer.

The two became warm friends, and

Augusta Victoria and the former Miss Lee were everywhere seen together. "Aunt Mary" she was called, though she was not so very old. Prince William, seeing that the clever American woman was admirably fitted to act as mentor for the young and unsophisticated bride, told his wife to follow her advice minutely.

The result was that Princess Noer polished the rough diamond given into her care with so much skill that even her worst enemies had to admit that she had made a great improvement in her. She made her a worldly wise, tactful, graceful woman, distinguished for her understanding of matters of State and social questions.

Ambition Almost Realized.

Years afterward this friendship told. The Countess had determined that her husband should have Bismarck's position. Bismarck and others had vowed he should not. Her aim had been all along to bring about the downfall of Bismarck. She knew that it would be impossible to accomplish this during the lifetime of William I. The direct successor, Frederick, was stricken with a mortal affliction. So at the first she had started to win over the young Prince William. This she tried to do through her friendship for his wife. The Prince had at that time well-defined views of government and of social factors. She dispensed hospitality at her home in the Wilhelmstrasse, the center of diplomatic Berlin. She surrounded the young Prince Wilhelm when he was a guest at her salon with persons who believed as she did. She brought him up to think in her way.

The result was that Waldersee before his death this year had the German Chancellorship twice within his grasp, but missed it each time through the machinations of his enemies.

German by Adoption.

Princess Hatzfeldt was Miss Clara Huntington, of New York, and daughter of C. P. Huntington, and Count Hatzfeldt, a cousin of the prince, also married an American girl, Miss Moulton, of New York.

Princess Salm Salm is another German Princess. She was Miss Agnes Jay,

and was born in Vermont. She met Prince Salm Salm in Washington at the beginning of the civil war, as he had come to America to join the Union forces out of a spirit of adventure. The marriage took place at Washington in 1861. The Princess has married again since the death of the Prince, in 1870, but she still retains her title.

Married a Russian.

Princess Czaykowski was Miss Edith Collins of New York, and a granddaughter of Commodore Vanderbilt. She was married to Prince Reched Bey Czaykowski in Paris in 1885, and lives at The Hague, where the prince is attached to the Turkish Embassy.

In Paris, where they were married, they are still remembered for the magnificence of the celebration of their nuptials. Every American and Russian of importance who happened to be in France attended.

Senator Depew, who is a relative of the Princess and was her guardian, and who was at one time reported to be engaged to her, made many of the arrangements for the wedding, but did not attend it.

The marriage of Miss Collins, of New York, a descendant of Commodore Vanderbilt, and a niece of a United States Senator, forms another bond between America and Russia. The Vanderbilt family itself, by the way, is well knit into the bone and fiber of three of the largest countries in the world, Great Britain, Russia and America.

After their wedding the Prince and Princess went to Russia, where they passed two seasons, and then went to Rome, where the Prince was attached to the Turkish Embassy.

After serving for several years at Rome he was sent to The Hague, where he is now.

San Francisco Girl a Princess.

Princess Poniatowski was Miss Sperry of San Francisco. The prince is of Polish extraction, but Italian by birth and breeding. He is a son of Prince Stanislas Poniatowski, who was Master of the Horse to the Emperor Napoleon III. The family is descended from the old Lombard Counts of Tarelli, who, in 1503, emigrated to Poland. In 1703 Count Stanislas Poniatowski was elected King of Poland.

There is another American Princess Poniatowski. She was Miss Catherine Goddard of New York. She married Prince Charles Poniatowski April 3, 1886, and lives in Italy.

From America to Russia.

Princess Belossarsky was Miss Susie Whittier of Boston, daughter of General Charles A. Whittier. She was married to the Prince in Paris in 1885 and has lived in Russia ever since at the Palace Belossarsky, on an island in the river at St. Petersburg, which has been owned by the family for many centuries. The Prince is aide-de-camp to the Grand Duke Vladimir.

This was another instance where the generally applied theory that European nobles marry Americans for their money does not fit. Miss Whittier, while coming from an old and blue-blooded New England family, brought her noble husband no dowry to speak of, and the Prince knew before he asked for her